GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1556
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2002
FACILITIES TO MANSAROVAR PILGRIMS
HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to extend the facilities and concession in fares to the pilgrims visiting Kailash Mansarovar on the lines of Haj Pilgrims;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, along the traditional route across Lipulekh Pass in Pithoragarh District of Uttaranchal, is coordinated by the Ministry of External Affairs and conducted with the assistance of various Central and State Government agencies.

Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) arranges board and lodge for Yatris on the Indian sideMEA provides Rs. 3,250/- per Yatri to KMVN to partially offset the expenditure incurred by the Yatris.Government provides free medical inspection and assistance, and security and escort cover upto Lipulekh Pass; insurance cover and communication links for the duration of the Yatra. A Liaison Officer is attached to each batch of Yatris. The Delhi Government provides free stay to Yatris at Ashok Yatri Niwas in New Delhi for 4-5 days during the onward and return journey.

It is the constant endeavour of Government to improve and upgrade facilities for the Yatris.